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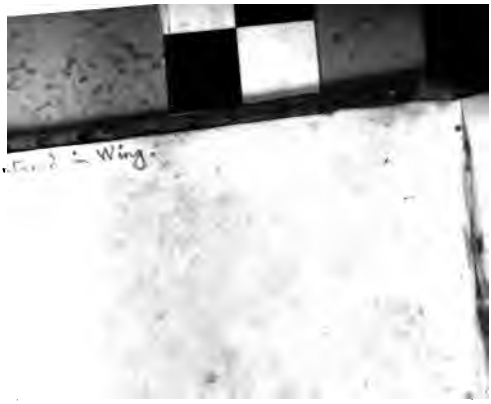
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not in the Bodleian Catalogue 1843.

AKEY TO OPEN, *of Palmers*

Heaven-Gate.

OR,

A ready Path to lead to

HEAVEN.

Written and Printed for the benefit of all true Christians, to read, hear and make good use of, before it be too late.

And therefore I advise every Man, and every women to observe and give good heed to what is spoken in this little Book, and they shall be sure to finde sweetnesse, and happinesse in this world, and eternall joys in the world to come, through the Might, Merits, and Mercies of Jesus Christ; who saith, *Aske and you shall have, seeke, and yee shall finde, knock and it shall be opened unto you.*

Written by *Laurence Price.*

London, Printed for *T. Vere* at the sign of the Angel without Newgate, 1666.

A Key to Open

Heaven-Gate.

Or,

A ready way to lead mento Heaven.

Here followeth good and ſound Directions to ſet Men in the ready way to Heaven; which way if they miſtake, they are never like to come there.

Ear and beloved Chriſtians, I would have you thus muchto underſtand, that all thoſe that have a deſire to goe to Heaven, muſt well and wiſely endeavour themſelves to follow this Path-way.

P. B. 41.

P.

irſt, you muſt truly and unfeig
ur to ſerve God, and obey his C
dements which is a duty that
done without any grudgings,
ings, or delays; for he that is
y, may be dead before to mor
hen it will be to late to look a
that they never ſought for in
ime: and therefore I adviſe y
Chriſtians) to ſeek the Lord
ay be found, for he his a God of
uſtice, of Peace, of Mercy, of
ſuch a one as would have all
woman to be ſaved.

econdly, here is another duty
ymed by all Men that will fi
y way to Heaven: as your broth
ueighbor, even ſo is your neigh
ur brother, & therefore ought
and woman to love, cheriſh
ſort each other, and to live in
unity one with another, and
ngle, brabble, fight, ſcold, a
aw, until they have undone one
, for they that do ſuch thing
far out of the way to Heaven.
ber therefore what our Sa
& ſaith in the Goſpel: A

Commandment give I unto you, ſee that you love one another, for if you love not your neighbour whom you ſee every day how can you love God whom you never ſaw, therefore conſider and take heed in time what you do: he that hateth his neighbour, hateth his brother, and he that hateth his brother hateth God, and he that hateth God, will never find the way to Heaven and therefore I deſire all them that are called by the name of Chriſtians to ſhew themſelves like Chriſtians, laying aſide all hatred, ſpight, envy, malice, lying, ſlandring, backbiting, hypocriſie, and diſſimulation, and withall to break ſuch bread as you would have broken; and likewiſe to do unto all men as you would they ſhould do unto you. This be ſure is the readieſt way for to pleaſe God, and the neareſt way to Heaven: Yet more then this is to be done before, you come to your journeys end: You muſt repent you of all your former iniquities; you muſt be good to them ſ have done evil to you: and muſt forgive them their treſpaſſes, as you look to be forgiven at the hands of God. And ſo farre muſt your mindes and your hearts

be given to quietnes, that you muſt not ſo much as to let the ſun go down while you are in wrath, For vengeance is mine ſaith the Lord, and I will repay it.

In the nert place, every chriſtian ought at all times very early and late, to pray unto the Lord, that he will add a bleſſing to their endeavours, and the better to be imployed, let them follow after Gods Preachers, and heare them Preach and Teach, that are both able and willing to declare the word of God unto them, and ſo by degrees they ſhall find the mercies of the Lord redoubled unto them, and thereby they ſhall be brought to ripeneſs of underſtanding, whereby to know and diſtinguiſh betwéen good and bad, which may be great furtherance to them in the way to Heaven.

True knowledge is of ſuch an excellent vertue that it is ſufficient to bring us acquainted with the principall things that are to be had in this life, and after this life ended, it ſhall bring our Soules into everlaſting happineſs.

True knowledge wil make you underſtand that God the Father Created as, *that God the* Son redéemed us, and that

God

God the holy Ghoſt ſanctified us, & preſerveth all thoſe that faithfully believe that our Lord & Saviour Jeſus Chriſt ſuffered death upon the Croſſe, to ſave our ſouls from the tyranny of the divel, and from the torments of Hell; as you may read in the 13 Chap. of the Golpel written by St. Matthew, where it is ſaid, Bleſſed be your eys for they ſee, and your ears for they hear, and your hearts for they underſtand.

And to be brief, true knowledge and underſtanding may very well be termed a Key to open the gates of Heaven, Then what man or woman will be ſo wilfully blind as to neglect the ſeeking for ſuch an excellent vertue; yet there are ſome, and too many in theſe ſinful & wicked times, that are ſo careleſſe and regardleſs, that they had rather chooſe to follow the vain delights and pleaſures of this wicked world, than to ſeek for the Redemption of their ſouls, and the joyes of Heaven hereafter, whom our Saviour Chriſt bought and paid for with his moſt precious blod.

Some there are likewiſe, that bear a ſhew of Godlineſs, & yet they cannot or

ſuch perſons may ſpeedily a
lives, leſt at the laſt day the
Judge of all the world, Jeſus
ſay unto them, Depart from m
ers of iniquity.

But now beloved Chriſtian
have you to conſider and thin
that ỳ day of vengeance is nea
and every ſoul ſhall ſtand at th
Arraignment before the righteo
to render up an account of al t
and actions good and evil: and
the good be ſevered from the bad
one ſort with joy and triumph
ed into everlaſting happineſs,
e caſt into utter darkneſs, whe
hing elſe to be heard or ſeen.

rich and the poꝛ, the King and the Beg-
gar, the ſtrong and the weak, the bound
and the free; all muſt come whether they
will oꝛ no: for God hath no reſpect of
perſons: and at that great and notable
day of ỳ Lord our God, there is no de-
lays to be made, there ſhall be no Law-
yers to plead a cauſe foꝛ another man oꝛ
woman: foꝛ he ſhall be ſure to have
woꝛk enough to do of his own, neither
ſhall there be any bꝛibes accepted of,
therefoꝛe lok wel about you, and pꝛe-
vent the wrath of the Judge while you
may; and pꝛovoke not God to Anger,
leſt your ſoules periſh in diſpleaſure.

Yet furthermoꝛe I would have you
remember this, ỳ as the Saints of Hea-
ven are cꝛowned with glozy, and the
wicked ſent unto the gulph of miſery,
there is no returning from neither of the
places, but whereſoever they are ſent
by the Judge, there they are to continue
world without END. Oh! what a
heavy ſight will it be to the Wicked,
when they ſhall ſee the godly entertain-
ed into Heaven among the glozious
Saints and Angels of the Lord, and they
themſelves to be caſt into utter dark-

neſs

im the preſence of Chriſt for e
Such curſed wretches as are
t of, are them who have loſt th
eaven, and can never find th
n Heaven Gate withall.

The laſt thing that I have to pu
nd of is, that every one ſhould re
End, and think upon the da
th while he is alive on the Ea
purpoſe the wiſe man Solon
ght us one Leſſon, and to th
n he ſaies, Remember thy end.
ator in the days of thy youth, a
f he ſaith, Remember thy end
orrow, and the next day, & all

all our ſins & receive our ſoules into his heavenly Kingdom: if every one will make uſe of what is here ſet down, and conſtantly practice it in their lives and converſations, they need not fear death let him come early or late, ſleeping or waking, or what time ſoever it be, neither can the gates of Hell nor the power of Divels prevail againſt them ẏ have found the right way to Heaven. And to conclude this point; let all ẏ ever mean wel to their own ſouls, take good notice of what is ſaid, it may be a means through Gods great mercy to bring them that are gon aſtray, in the right and perfect way to Heaven, where at the firſt entrance, our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt will be ready to welcome us in with theſe ſweet and comfortable greetings and imbracements, with words as followeth: Come ye bleſſed Children of my Father, receive a Crown and Kingdom of Glory, which was prepared for you at the beginning. To which kingdome, The Lord in his good time bring us all. There ſhall the bleſſed ſouls of ẏ righteous behold the celeſtiall Saints of the Lord, & be partakers with them of the everlaſting felicity which is

un-

eakable, then ſhall they that mourned
be converted there. And they that
ed reproachfull words, abuſefull
rs, ſhamfull diſgraces, and perſe-
us for Chriſt and the Goſpels ſake
have a full reward, and ſweet ſatiſ-
n in the Sanctuary of the moſt high
& al thoſe which have bèn wrong-
Earth, ſhall be righted in Heaven,
) conſideration may very wel ſerve
nfort all ſuch as have bèn or are
vays afflicted, derided, or oppreſſed,
alſly accuſed in this preſent life;
there is a Crown of glory laid up
em in the life to come, then let all
ind faithfull Believers be valiant-
ed, and never be diſmaid for all that
e done againſt them by the world
eſh, and the Devill.
d for your further inſtruction, I
wiſh you all to be well adviſed
follow the Doctrine and Counſell
Apoſtle St. Paul, who biddeth, you
on the whole armour of God, Having
loynes girt about with the truth, putt-
n the breſt-plate of righteouſneſs, and
ſhod with the preparation of the
el of peace, taking up the ſhield

of

of faith, and helmet of ſa'vation, And being thus armed you need not fear all the Enemies that ever can aſſault or come againſt you; as you may read in the 6 Chapt. of Epheſ. 14, 15, 16, 17, verſes, how to come by this Armour, and how to uſe it, you muſt learn that of our Captain and Leader Jeſus Chriſt, who ſuffered many perſecutions when he was upon earth, as hunger, cold, baniſhment, ſcorns and taunts, whippings, & buffetings, ſpitting on the face, and at laſt nailed on the Croſs, and pierced to the heart with a bloody ſpear; in all which afflictions he was never ſeen to look upon Enemies with a frowning Eye, nor to give them ſo much as an angry word, but at the very point of death he took all things patiently, and prayed for his enemies, ſaying, Father forgive them, they know not what they do. And when he fetcht his laſt gaſp at the yielding up of the ghoſt, he cryed with a loud voice, Father into thy hands I commit my Spirit.

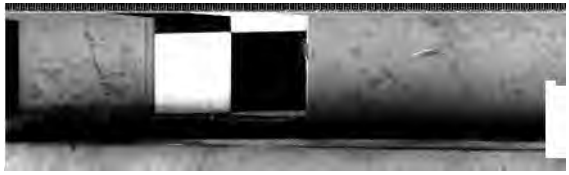
Thus was our Saviour Jeſus Chriſt made a ſufferer for our ſakes, & all thoſe torments did he undergo while he was on earth, to teach us the way to Heaven,

and

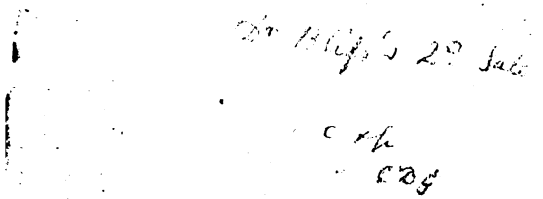
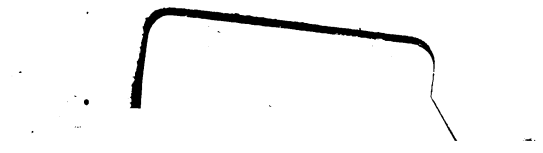
and this hath he purchaſed with his moſt dear and precious blood, to ſave us from the torments of Hell; and after that Chriſt had ſuffered the ſharpneſs of death he aſcended into heaven, where he hath made already interceſſion for all them that are his followers. And ſeeing that our Saviour hath led the way, why ſhould not we be as willing to come to him: he hath promiſed he will never leave us nor forſake us, if we do not leave nor forſake him: Therefore let us looke to our ſelves, if we will not find the way to Heaven, the fault is our own.

Therefore to finiſh up all, I once more deſire you all, that you wil never leave Practiſing to find the way to Heaven. For bleſſed are they that continue to the END.

A PRAYER.



A PRAYER.

O Moſt mighty *Lord* God full of mercy and compaſſion to all that call upon thy holy Name, and ſeek after thy Heavenly Kingdome: Wee thy poor diſtreſſed Servants and Children, doe upon the bended knees of our hearts, proſtrate our ſelves before thee, with all humility both of ſouls & bodies; deſiring that of thy infinite goodneſſe thou wilt be pleaſed to teach us the way to come unto thee, for we are not able to do any good thing of our ſelves, without thy powerfull help; we are weak, but thou art ſtrong; and therefore draw us, and wee will follow thee; direct our wayes to come unto thee, ſo that when the time comes that our ſouls ſhall be ſeparated from our bodies, we may be received into the Joyes of Heaven, and that for the ſake of Jeſus Chriſt our Saviour, to whom with the Father, and Holy Ghoſt, be all Honour and Glory, Power and Praiſe, both now, and for evermore, *Amen.*

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